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The last two chapters are a discussion of "Scientific Socialism," which the author shows to be unscientific, and of "Christian Socialism." Dr. Gladden has been one of the first to detect and appreciate the truth found in socialism, to separate this from the serious errors which have accompanied it, and to put it upon its true basis.

"Tools and the Man" is full of clear and wise thinking, and of the great regenerating and peace-making principles of Christianity.

ENGLISH HISTORY WITH ITS WARS LEFT OUT. By George Pitt. Mitcham, Surrey, England: T. Compton, Jr., Printer.

This little book is an effort to give the history of England's greatness, as due to other causes entirely than her wars, which the author says "leave us no better than they found us, but much worse off." When he alludes to wars it is only "to draw a moral from them, and to show in what parts of history they have fitted in." The substance of the book was originally delivered as an essay before the "Berkeley Mutual Improvement Society" of Mitcham. The essay was afterwards expanded into a series of essays and printed in the present form. It would be difficult to put more history into a hundred pages than Mr. Pitt has done.

## AMONG THE PAPERS.

### EUROPEAN CONSOLIDATION.

Without entering into the vexed question of the union of Norway and Sweden it is undoubtedly true that there is no reason why any two countries whose interests are almost identical should not consolidate. In fact the tranquillity of Europe would be much enhanced if she contained fewer countries.

Europe to-day is much in the condition of an overcrowded tenement, filled with families not on the best of terms with each other. Living, as they all do, in such narrow quarters, with such conflicting interests, it is hard to preserve the peace.

Railroads and telegraphs have constantly made Europe smaller; but at the same time individual governments have been growing more and more numerous. Perhaps it would be advantageous to the peace and progress of mankind if many of the European nations should "double up."

"Lands intersected by a narrow frith," as Cowper says, "abhor each other." Now the narrow frith is spanned by countless railroad bridges, and trade and commerce and intercourse make the two lands one, why should they not consolidate in a federal union and be one in reality? — *Boston Globe*.

While it is evident to the philosophical student of history that war has had its uses in advancing the race, giving to the world many of the blessings which it holds dearest, it is equally apparent that a stage has been reached where the advancements of civilization, science and art may be permitted to supersede violence and maintain a mastery which will insure the settlement of those differences that have heretofore led to the savagery and destruction of war. It is a general impression that there must be a battle royal in Europe before the benediction of "peace on earth" finds an affirmative response, but even there,

pride and ambition are the chief incentives to the sanguinary conflict and a submission to the decree of even-handed justice would do more than any other one thing to vindicate the wisdom and the humanity of the age.

International appeal to arbitration seems to suggest to some who are discussing it, that man's natural belligerency is to be suppressed. Such a thing is impossible. Belligerency is as inherent in man as the principle of self-defense to which it is akin. The purpose is to regulate this belligerency; not to deprive nations of the means of defence, but to provide a surer and more rational guarantee of their rights. Man has reached a state where war is a crime and those who precipitate it are prompted by some unworthy motive which aims at material gain. If disputes arise disinterested nations can be relied upon to adjudicate them and war would thus be relegated to history. — *Detroit Free Press*.

The prolonged disturbances in Sicily are not yet over. Although the Italian Government has more than 40,000 troops in the Island, at the time we write, 2500 more had been just sent to Palermo. It is agreed on all hands that the people have been maddened by misery and by excessive taxation. It is alleged that the local authorities have continued to place the chief burden upon those least able to bear it. That has, no doubt, aggravated the evil, but the chief grievance lies in the enormous expenditure upon armaments. Everybody tries to escape the tax gatherer as far as he can. The Government propose to make it easier for the peasantry to borrow money; what is really wanted is such a reduction of the taxes as will make it unnecessary for the peasantry to borrow at all. Militarism is crushing the life out of the Italian people, and the Sicilian revolt is only the natural consequence.

Nothing can be more ludicrous than the ignorant impatience of taxation, which is just now being displayed by the organs of the influential classes. For several weeks the *Times*, and other organs of respectability, have been publishing lengthy articles, to show that our fleet is miserably insufficient. They raise a clamorous demand for more ships, and more guns, and even try to cast discredit upon the Government because it has not at once announced a new great naval program. But no sooner has the Government made it known that it contemplates large additions to the navy, and no sooner have Mr. Philip Stanhope, and nearly a hundred M. P.'s, asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer to provide in his next Budget that the rich, rather than the poor, shall pay the cost, than the air is filled with angry protests. We heartily trust that Sir William Harcourt will hold the noses of those mouthing patriots to the grindstone. If the Finance Ministers throughout Europe would take the same course, the cry for greater armaments would very soon abate. — *The Arbitrator*.

"Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding; for the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies; and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace."